

(b) Any party may file a reply brief with the Docketing Center 35 days or less after service of the appellate brief. Each such party shall serve a copy on every other party. If the party filing the reply brief relies on evidence contained in the record for the appeal, that brief must specifically refer to the pertinent parts of the record.

(c) No party may file more than one appellate brief or reply brief, unless—

(1) The party has petitioned the Commandant in writing; and

(2) The Commandant has granted leave to file an added brief, in which event the Commandant will allow a reasonable time for the party to file that brief.

(d) The Commandant may accept an *amicus curiae* brief from any person in an appeal of an ALJ's decision.

§ 20.1004 Decisions on appeal.

(a) The Commandant shall review the record on appeal to determine whether the ALJ committed error in the proceedings, and whether the Commandant should affirm, modify, or reverse the ALJ's decision or should remand the case for further proceedings.

(b) The Commandant shall issue a decision on every appeal in writing and shall serve a copy of the decision on each party and interested person.

Subpart K—Finality, Petitions for Hearing, and Availability of Orders

§ 20.1101 Finality.

(a) *Civil penalty proceedings.*

(1) Unless appealed pursuant to subpart J of this part, an ALJ's decision becomes an order assessing or denying a class II civil penalty 30 days after the date of its issuance.

(2) If the Commandant issues a decision under Subpart J of this part, the decision constitutes an order of the Commandant assessing or denying a class II civil penalty on the date of issuance of the Commandant's decisions.

(b) *S&R Proceedings.* (1) Unless appealed pursuant to subpart J of this part, an ALJ's decision becomes final action of the Coast Guard 30 days after the date of its issuance.

(2) If the Commandant issues a decision under Subpart J of this part, the decision constitutes final action of the Coast Guard on the date of its issuance.

§ 20.1102 Petitions to set aside decisions and provide hearings for civil penalty proceedings.

(a) If no hearing takes place on a complaint for a class II civil penalty, any interested person may file a petition, 30 days or less after the issuance of an order assessing or denying a civil penalty, asking the Commandant to set aside the order and to provide a hearing.

(b) If the Commandant decides that evidence presented by an interested person in support of a petition under paragraph (a) of this section is material and that the ALJ did not consider the evidence in the issuance of the decision, the Commandant shall set aside the decision and direct that a hearing take place in accordance with the requirements of this part.

(c) If the Commandant denies a hearing sought under this section, he or she shall provide to the interested person, and publish in the FEDERAL REGISTER, notice of and the reasons for the denial.

§ 20.1103 Availability of decisions.

(a)(1) Copies and indexes of decisions on appeal are available for inspection and copying at—

(i) The document inspection facility at the office of any Coast Guard District, Activity, or Marine Safety Office;

(ii) The public reading room at Coast Guard Headquarters; and

(iii) The public reading room of the Coast Guard ALJ Docketing Center; Baltimore, Maryland.

(2) Appellate decisions in S&R proceedings, and both appellate and ALJs' decisions on class II civil penalties, are available on the Department of Transportation Home Page at www.dot.gov or the Coast Guard Home Page at www.uscg.mil.

(b) Any person wanting a copy of a decision may place a request with the Hearing Docket Clerk. The Clerk will bill the person on the terms prescribed in 49 CFR 7.43.